

Message Text

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11
ACTION SCI-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-10 ISO-00 L-02 INT-01 IO-03 COA-01 DLOS-03

NSF-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 RSC-01

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: XV, TGEN, UK
SUBJECT: ANTARCTIC MINERAL RESOURCES CONSULTATIONS WITH
UK

1. US TEAM MET OCT. 7 AT FCO WITH DR. BRIAN ROBERTS AND
DR. JOHN HEAP OF POLAR REGIONS SECTION AND LEGAL ADVISER
DAVID ANDERSON TO DISCUSS ANTARCTIC MINERAL RESOURCES
QUESTION IN CONTEXT OF OVERALL REVIEW OF PREP COM AGENDA.
UK INDICATED SATISFACTION WITH NORWEGIAN PROPOSED AGENDA
FOR EIGHTH CONSULTATIVE AND WELCOMED U.S. PROPOSED ADDI-
TIONS.

2. WITH RESPECT TO RESOURCE ISSUE, ROBERTS STATED UK
VIEWS REMAIN UNCHANGED FROM WELLINGTON MEETING. UK DOES
NOT OPPOSE RATIONAL EXPLOITATION OF ANTARCTIC RESOURCES
BUT BELIEVES THAT UNILATERAL ACTIONS TO THIS END BY ANY
TREATY PARTY WOULD HAVE MOST UNFORTUNATE CONSEQUENCES.
UK BELIEVES THAT NO TREATY PARTY SHOULD ISSUE EXPLORATION
OR EXPLOITATION LICENSE WITHOUT CONSULTING OTHER PARTIES
AND FURTHER THAT PARTIES SHOULD DISCOURAGE EXPLORATION
FOR MINERALS WHILE ATTEMPTS TO DEVELOP AN AGREED ARRANGE-
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MENT FOR MINERAL EXPLORATION/EXPLOITATION ARE UNDERWAY.

3. AT MOMENT UK IS PRINCIPALLY CONCERNED WITH POSSIBILITY OF ATTEMPTS IN LOS CONFERENCE TO TAKE OVER ANTARCTIC RE-SOURCE QUESTION. ANDERSON (UK) EXPRESSED VIEW THAT TREATY PARTIES MUST DEVELOP CONVINCING EVIDENCE THAT THEY:

A. ARE FORMALLY SIEZED OF QUESTION IN ANTARCTIC CONSULTATIVE FORUM; AND

B. ARE DEVELOPING AN INSTRUMENT TO DEAL WITH RE-SOURCE PROBLEM.

UK VIEW AS AMPLIFIED BY ROBERTS IS THAT AGREEMENT BY NEXT LOS MEETING NOT NECESSARY; HOWEVER, THERE MUST BE A DRAFT PAPER OF SOME SORT UNDER CONSIDERATION BY TREATY NATION GOVERNMENTS BY THAT TIME. TO THIS END UK IS CONSIDERING POSSIBILITY OF TABLING A SIMPLE DRAFT AGREEMENT FOR CONSIDERATION AT TIME THEY SPEAK IN SUPPORT OF INSCRIPTION OF RESOURCE ITEM ON AGENDA DURING PREPARATORY MEETING.

4. DURING DISCUSSIONS UK EXPRESSED REGRET THAT U.S. UNWILLING TO DISCUSS SUBSTANCE OF RESOURCE OR LOS QUESTIONS DURING PREP MEETING. UK HAD HOPED TO PRESS FORWARD ON THESE ISSUES THIS FALL BECAUSE ANDERSON WILL BE POSTED TO LOS CONFERENCE AT TIME OF CONSULTATIVE MEETING. IN VIEW US POSITION ON SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION THIS ITEM IN PREP COM, UK RECONSIDERING THEIR PROPOSAL TO NORWEGIANS THAT ISSUE BE DISCUSSED IN PREP COM SESSIONS.

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